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W. Lawson
8/3/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Hillel Gazit | Examiner: Ton
Serial No. 09/055,156 | Art Unit: 2714
Filed: April 4, 1998

Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD OF SPLICING DIGITAL VIDEO STREAMS

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July 18, 2001

Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated January 18, 2001, entry of the amendments and remarks set forth below are respectfully requested.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Paragraph at page 50, line 12, to page 51, line 7

The FIG. 12 flow chart illustrates how a preferred splicer according to the invention preferably aligns the start of decoder input buffer receipt of new data stream data with the start of the last buffer of the old data stream. Broadly stated, if the new data stream is an early data stream type (e.g. curve 1102b of FIG. 11), then splicer-N 270 delays transmission of (and equivalently, delays reception by a decoder of) the new data stream data. If instead, the new data stream is a late stream type (e.g. curve 1102c of FIG. 11), then splicer-N 270 accelerates transmission of (and equivalently, accelerates reception by a decoder of) new data stream data. More specifically, splicer-N 270 preferably delays the new data stream data by adding null packets prior to the start of new data stream transmission, or accelerates the new data stream by deleting null packets that have been encoded into the data stream. Splicer-N 270 further preferably stores a total number of added/deleted null packets for later use during splicing, as will be discussed further herein.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 72.